

# IRON REGULATING PROTEIN -2 (IRP-2) AS A DIAGNOSTIC FOR NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASE

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5           The present invention relates to the discovery of markers for neurodegenerative disease. More particularly, it was discovered that forms of IRP-2 protein that are unable to undergo oxidation at critical cysteine residues are diagnostic for neurodegenerative disease including, but not limited to Alzheimer's disease. Embodiments include nucleic acids that encode mutant IRP-2 proteins and fragments thereof, mutant IRP-2 proteins and fragments thereof, antibodies directed to epitopes  
10   present on mutant IRP-2 proteins and fragments thereof, methods of making these nucleic acids and polypeptides, as well as, approaches to diagnose neurodegenerative disease in animals, such as humans at risk of contracting Alzheimer's disease.

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